

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1 (Currently Amended) A method for treating bone comprising:

providing a tubular assembly comprising a first tubular member having a distal end, a second tubular member extending along an axis, longitudinally extending through the interior of the first tubular member, and having a distal end projecting outwardly beyond the distal end of the first tubular member, and a torque transmitting stylet longitudinally extending through the interior of the second tubular member and having a distal end fixedly **and nonremovably** secured to the distal end of the second tubular member,

providing a structure having opposite ends spaced along the axis, the structure being adapted to undergo expansion outwardly about the axis, the structure having a normally unwrapped condition having an outside diameter,

securing one end of the structure to the distal end of the first tubular member, and the other end of the structure to the outwardly projecting distal end of the second tubular member, in a manner such that the structure substantially envelopes the outwardly projecting distal end of the second tubular member,

placing the structure in a wrapped condition by rotating the stylet to thereby rotate the second tubular member relative to the first tubular member and wrap the structure inwardly about the outwardly projecting distal end of the second tubular member to reduce the outside diameter,

inserting the structure, while in the wrapped condition, into bone,

returning the structure to the unwrapped condition inside bone, and

causing expansion of the structure in cancellous bone.

2 (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 further including introducing a material into the bone.

3 (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the expansion compacts cancellous bone.

4 (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the expansion forms a cavity in cancellous bone.

5 (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 4 further including filling the cavity with a material.

6 (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 5 wherein the material comprises bone cement.

7 (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 5 wherein the material comprises synthetic bone substitute.

8 (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 5 wherein the comprises a flowable material that sets to a hardened condition.

9 (Canceled)

10 (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 further including, after the expansion, reducing the size of the structure for removal from the bone.

11 (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 10 wherein the reducing includes placing the structure in the wrapped condition.

12. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the wrapping includes causing differential rotation of one end of the structure about the axis relative to the other end.

13. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the expansion moves cortical bone.

14. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the stylet is of a generally flexible construction.

15. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 further comprising causing the structure to axially elongate in response to rotation of the stylet.

16. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the step of providing a tubular assembly is performed in a manner such that an annular flow passage communicating with the interior of the structure is created between the first and second tubular members, and

wherein the step of causing expansion of the structure in cancellous bone is performed by flowing an expansion fluid through the annular flow passage into the interior of the structure.